



Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division
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Jim Lynch, Director
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SENATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION	
EXHIBIT NO.	<u>3</u>
DATE:	<u>2-15-07</u>
BILL NO.	<u>HB-127</u>

Testimony House Bill 127

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Debbie Alke, Administrator, MDT Aeronautics Division. Thank you Rep. Keane.

MDT supports HB 127 requiring MDT to immediately deposit aircraft registration receipts into the general fund.

MDT is responsible for registering aircraft based in the state. It retains 10% of the fees and transfers 90% to the general fund. Prior to 2001 and passing of the "big bill" HB 124 that changed distribution formulas for fees paid to local governments, MDT Aeronautics would distribute 90% of the fees directly to each county, twice each year as provided in statute. It now transfers these fees to the general fund for further distribution to counties.

Since the allocation is now all within state funds, a Legislative Audit performed in 2005 recommended these collections be deposited upon receipt.

I ask for your support of HB127 and am happy to answer any questions from the committee.